JOE CABOT

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Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Some months back, I had a fascinating conversation with former CIA officer Phil Roettinger (see enclosure). I was excited by what seemed to be confirmation of Marita Lorenz' claims regarding the Kennedy assassination, and E. Howard Hunt's alleged involvement (again, see enclosure).

At the time, I was not aware that Lorenz had testified to this before the House Assassinations Committee, and that this testimony had been used by A.J. Weberman in his defence when Hunt sued him for libel. The spot light's claims that this was new information would seem to be highly exaggerated.

I would also like to mention, I was highly curious about the remark about George

Bush. At the time, I thought he was just commenting on Bush's role in Iran-Contra and how it was covered over, but I wasn't entirely certain. The publication of the Nation article raises new questions in my mind.

I'm writing to you for two reasons: To ask

① Are you familiar with Marita Lorenz's claims, and do you believe them to be true? (Blakey and Billings seem to dismiss her testimony only because her claim seems outrageous, and because these four unsavory men denied it.)

② Have you any independent research to confirm George Bush's early CIA activity, and possible involvement in the Kennedy Assassination or its cover-up?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Cobot

On monday, May 9th, 1988, Philip Roettinger, retired Marine Corps Colonel and ex-C IA official, who was instrumental in the 1954 overthrow of the Guatemalan Government, spoke at the Olympia Timberland Library. Roettinger is also involved in ARDIS (Association for Responsible Dissent), an organization of retired CIA officials who are dedicated to letting the American people know what has been and is being done in their names. Before Mr. Roettinger spoke, I took the opportunity to speak with him. Immediately afterwards, I wrote down the conversation, which follows:

Joe: Are you with ARDIS? (I didn't know at the time that he was).

Phil: Yes, I am, as a matter of fact, I'm president, actually. They had a meeting that I wasn't at, and they elected me president, the rascals...

Joe: Do you find Marita Larenz to be generally reliable?

Phil: Oh, yes. She's wild, but, yes, she's what she says she is. I met her at our organizing meeting. I didn't know who she was - she came up to me and started talking. I was thinking "who are you?"

Joe: I read an article in the Spotlight...

Phil: Oh, yes. I haven't read it yet, but I've heard about it.

Joe: Did she really say all these things about Hunt and Sturgis and Oswald in Dallas?

Phil: Yes, and we've confirmed it. It's all true.

Joe: Then maybe some of this stuff will actually come out...

Phil: Yeah, yeah! (Excited). We're going to get this stuff out. Especially about Bush. Not until after he's been nominated, of course!.

Joe: Wow!

Phil: Glad to have you here. (Pats shoulder).